

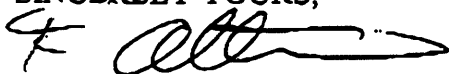
KIMBERLY TOPPER  
CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH (HFD-21)  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
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I AM WRITING IN OPPOSITION TO NEW RESTRICTIONS TO THE USE OF  
NARCOTICS FOR LONG TIME CANCER PAIN.

THE SCIENCE OF PAIN CLEARLY INDICATES THAT LONG TERM PAIN CAN  
BE CAUSED BY DAMAGE TO THE PAIN PROCESSING SYSTEM AND THAT  
THIS PAIN CAN BE IMPROVED BY NARCOTICS. ANYTHING THAT IS DONE  
TO MAKE PRESCRIBING OF PAIN MEDICATIONS MORE DIFFICULT WILL  
DIRECTLY CAUSE MORE PATIENTS TO SUFFER. ALREADY IN MY  
COMMUNITY I HAVE HAD STATE OF MAINE OVERSEERS TELL ME THAT I  
HAVE BEEN PRESCRIBING TOO MUCH DARVOCET TO A PATIENT  
SUFFERING FROM TERMINAL LUNG CANCER. HE DIED WITHIN ONE WEEK  
OF MY NOTIFICATION THAT I WAS IMPROPERLY PRESCRIBING. ALSO  
COMMUNITY LAWYERS ARE ADVERTIZING IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS  
THAT PATIENTS THAT HAVE BEEN PRESCRIBED OXYCONTIN SHOULD  
CALL THE LAW OFFICE TO INITIATE LAWSUITS.

IN AN ATMOSPHERE LIKE THIS FURTHER RESTRICTIONS BY THE FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT WILL LIMIT ACCESS TO PAIN MEDICATION. PATIENTS  
SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SUFFER BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT IS  
INCOMPETENT TO ENFORCE DRUG LAWS.

SINCERELY YOURS,



FRANK ALTMAN M.D.